

# RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS

---

Vol. XXII

April, 1929

No. 2

---



A DETAIL FROM THE CERTIFICATE OF THE MARINE SOCIETY OF NEWPORT ISSUED IN 1794. IT WAS ENGRAVED IN NEW YORK PERHAPS A FEW YEARS EARLIER. THE FLAG AT THE LEFT WAS EVIDENTLY INTENDED FOR THE RHODE ISLAND STATE FLAG.

*From certificate in The Shepley Library.*

Issued Quarterly

---

68 WATERMAN STREET, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

## CONTENTS

---

	PAGE
An Early Rhode Island Flag . . . . .	cover
Indian Place Names	
An Interview with William B. Cabot .	33
Rhode Island's Place in the History of Naval Flags . . . . .	39
Was William Claggett, the Clock Maker, an Engraver? . . . . .	41
Log of the Ranger, 1744 . . . . .	46
Notes . . . . .	53
Treasurer's Report . . . . .	55
Colonial Heraldry . . . . .	59

RHODE  
HISTORICAL



ISLAND  
SOCIETY

## COLLECTIONS

---

Vol. XXII

April, 1929

No. 2

---

CLAUDE R. BRANCH, *President*  
HOWARD W. PRESTON, *Secretary*

GILBERT A. HARRINGTON, *Treasurer*  
HOWARD M. CHAPIN, *Librarian*

---

The Society assumes no responsibility for the statements or the opinions of contributors.

---

### The Meaning of Indian Place Names

Mr. William B. Cabot of Boston<sup>1</sup>, who has travelled extensively among the Indians of Labrador and is a student of Algonquin place-names, has gathered a large amount of information on the subject.

Mr. Cabot kindly submitted to an interview recently and told about some of our local place-names. The following résumé of his remarks will be of interest to our readers.

The Indians did not name places as we do, with a definite proper name which thereafter became associated arbitrarily with the place. Almost all of their place-names are descriptive of the place, so that another Indian will know the place when he reaches it. Our use of writing and maps has done away to a large extent with this point of view.

Aquidneck does not mean *the island, the longest island or on the island*, as some writers have averred, but it has a much more definite descriptive meaning, of which these three ex-

---

<sup>1</sup>Author of *Labrador*.



pressions are rather too free translations. Aquid, Aquidy or Aquiday, as it was early spelled, signified to the Indians in this case an island, or hill that had sort of a suspended appearance. Aquidy carries an idea which it is very difficult to translate into exact English. The late Noel Lyon of Oldtown, Maine, the tribal authority of the Penobscot tribe of Indians on traditions and language, called it a "rather a fancy word." He said, "It is the look of something that stands in the water, not the ordinary look of land. A ship at anchor can be aquidni. The hanging look of an object in times of looming, or when the horizon line disappears against the sky, is the clear case of aquidni. As you pass a long point, it may be aquidni. A thing in motion is not aquidni." Perhaps a more liberal translation would be the island that looms up, hence the large island that looms up down the bay. The *neck* or *eck* is the Indian locative, or place suffix signifying land, district or place.

The *s* sound, often anglicised as *si* is an Indian diminutive and appears in the Indian name Aquednesit or Aquidnesuck applied to Dutch Island. It signifies the little island that looms up or perhaps the little island that looms up at a distance down the bay, for *Aquidny* carried the idea of visibility at some distance. In this particular word, Aquednesit, the diminutive *s* becomes merged with the locative *set*, or *sit* as it was usually written in the early days and probably pronounced. Such elisions create pit-falls for the philologists, but in this case the geography of the place confirms the theory that the *s* diminutive was originally in the word.

Quidnesset also falls into this same class. It is derived from the earlier form of Acquednesit. It is now applied to northern North Kingstown, but originally clearly applied to The Mount at Allen Harbor. The Mount, of course, was not a little island that loomed up at a distance, but a chunk or bulk that loomed up out of flatness. *Aquidny* to the Indians might be a hill or knoll out of a flat plain, as well as an island out of the flatness of a bay.

Cawncawnjawatchuck is a very interesting word. It was applied by the Indians to southwestern Cranston. The adjective

*Cawn* is identical with *con*, *kon*, or *quon*, for the English scribes of colonial days varied greatly in their phonetic translations of Indian sounds into English letters. It carried the idea of length as our word long. It is found in Conanicut, originally written Quonanicut and Quinunicut, in Quonset and in Quonochontang. Where it is doubled as in Quonochontaug, i. e. Quonoquontaug, and in Cawncawnjawatchuck it means two longish features, two ponds in succession or two hills or ridges. If the hills were side by side another term would be used. If an Indian were drawing a map showing two ponds near together or contiguous, and were thinking out loud, he would not say "two ponds," or "one pond and another pond," as we would, but would say "pond, pond." Hence in his application of place-names he used the same mode of thought. The *jawatch* or *jawatchu* part of the word is another case of Indian repetition misinterpreted by the scribe. The root or sound for hill is *adj* or *ja*, or *tch* or *wtch*, or *watch*, as variously interpreted by colonial writers.

Cawn-cawn-watchu-watchu-uck was then the early form of the word, meaning long-long-hill-hill, or as we would say a hill with two long ridges. The first *watchu* became elided into *ju* or *ja*, for it must always be remembered that the Indian vowel sounds varied considerably and were very poorly distinguished and inaccurately transcribed by the early settlers. The *uck* is the locative.

One of the most puzzling of our commonly used Indian place-names is Narragansett. Roger Williams wrote: "I also profess that being inquisitive of what 'roote' the title, or denominative, Nahigonset should come, I heard that Nahigonset was so named from a little island between Puttaquomscut and Mishquomacuk on the Sea and fresh water side. I went on purpose to see it, and about the place called Sugar Loaf Hill I saw it, and was within a Pole of it, but could not learn why it was called Nanhigonset." Rider sought to identify the island mentioned by Williams and satisfied himself that it was an island in the mouth of Smelt Brook Cove in Point Judith Pond. Mr. Cabot disagrees with Rider and takes up the word



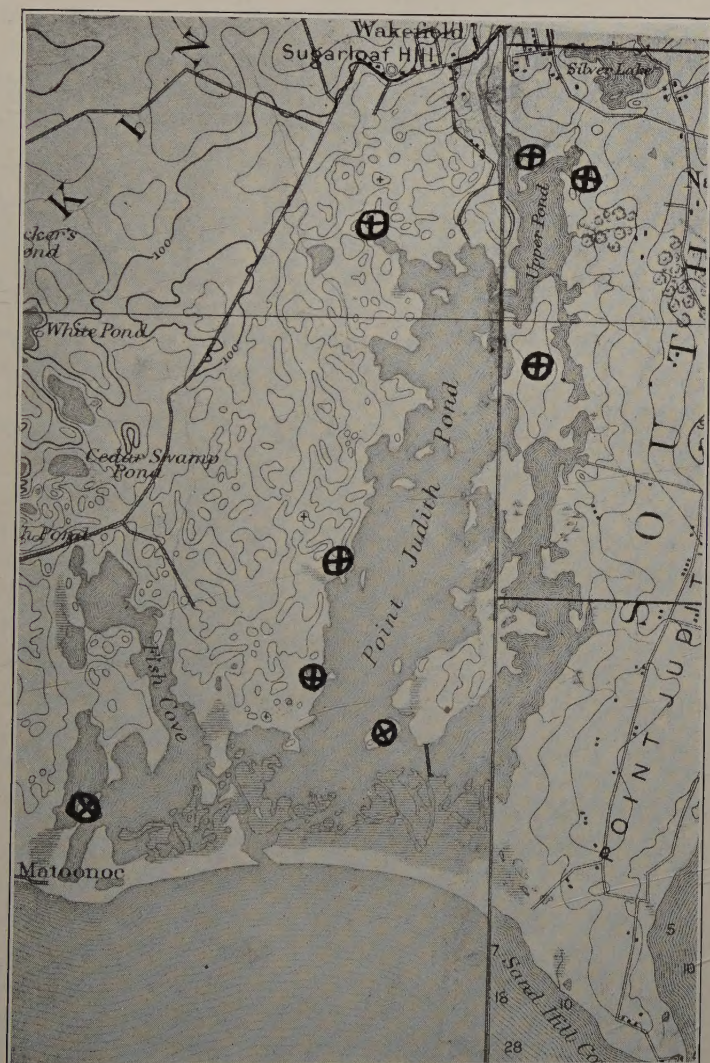
in its salient parts. The early form of the word was Nanhigonsick. *Nana* or *Nani*, of course with varying pronunciation, meant to the Indians some such idea as here and there, together with an idea of motion as back and forth, from one side to the other. *Hegon* signifies a low place, hence a passage or a carry<sup>1</sup>, or a passage behind an island as perhaps in Monhegan, where *mon* means a chunk or island and Monhegan an island with a passage behind it. The final syllable *sett* or *sit* is again the locative. This particular form of the locative, *sit*, is confined in usage practically to New England. While *uck*, and *ek*, mean a place or district, *sit*, and *sēt* carry the additional idea of a place of residence and occupation, a plantation or village. Nanihigonset, might be the settlement at the place where there was a passage, either by water or both by water and land, a passage and carry, around a point, from the place or water on one side to the place or water on the other. In other words Nanihegon might refer to Point Judith Pond and a carry to Pettaquamscutt Cove and the Cove, as a back passage to avoid rounding Point Judith. This inland or back passage was of course used in both directions. Point Judith itself, Weyanitoke, can be broken up philologically into *Wey* a sweep around, as of water around a point, *an* a contraction of *nana*<sup>2</sup>, and *toke* which probably means a high place on a point or a high point. Hence the word may mean a high point around which the ocean sweeps. On the other hand the name may carry the idea of a back passage, a high point with a back passage. Indeed Narragansett and Weyanatoke may both be derivatives from an earlier form Wey-nani-hegon-tok-set, a high point with a back passage around it.

Woonsocket, another important local name does not mean a hill, but is akin to Wainscott or Wanskuck and Woonasquacket. *Woon*, *wain*, *won* are like the *Wey* already discussed

---

<sup>1</sup>The meaning of Narragansett is given as a carrying place in Narra. Hist. Reg. vi, 138.

<sup>2</sup>Parsons p. 32 gives Wenannatoke.



THE LOCATION OF INDIAN CAMP SITES NEAR POINT JUDITH POND,  
AS INDICATED BY THE DISCOVERY OF CHIPPED FLINT AND  
OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDIAN OCCUPATION.



and carry the idea of a sweep around, in these cases a bend in a river. *As* carries the idea of flowing and *ask* or *aske* that of flowing through a marsh. The *uck* of Wanskuck is the locative meaning district, or land about a place, and *tucket* means a river mouth, the district about the mouth of a river, the flat part, the estuary.

We find *tucket* again in Tuscatucket, and Pawtucket, the mouth of a river. *Paw* carries the idea of falling, as in rapids or falls, fast running water coming to a level, hence sometimes interpreted as falls, or where fresh water runs into salt. The ending *xet* of Pawtuxet changes the meaning of the locative *set* from the mouth of the river to the land at the mouth of the river.

Turning to Quonochontaug, we find it means long-long-pond, and so two long ponds conjoined. Quonochon was derived from *Quonquon* through *quonoquon*, the *o* for euphony, into quonochon and the *pond*-ending *paug* likewise for euphony, given as *taug*.

Papaquinapaug was the name for the Fenner Pond, probably originally applied to both Fenner Pond and the marshy ponds that make up the lake system of Roger Williams Park. *Papa* is like *nana*, here and there, so side by side, but is a less energized prefix than *nana*. *Quin* is a variant of *Quon* with the idea of length and *paug* is of course pond. Quonabaug with the *paug* changed to *baug* and Quonopaug are similar words.



## Rhode Island's Place in the History of Naval Signal Flags

Thanks to the genius and ability of "Nat" Herreshoff, who at Bristol, Rhode Island, designed and built the fastest yacht that ever sailed, Rhode Island will always hold a unique and enviable position in the history of maritime affairs; a position equal to that held by the French Ile d'Oleron, famous for those fundamental laws of the sea known as the Laws of Oleron, and better indeed than the position of Amalfi, for Amalfi's claim to the invention of the mariner's compass has been the subject of controversy.

Rhode Island also holds an important, though hitherto unrecognized, place in the history of the development of marine signal flags, a development which has culminated in the International Signal Code, the nearest approach to a universal language that has ever been adopted as a practical means of communication. The alphabetical International Code, which was practically in universal use at sea up to the perfection of wireless radio communication and which is still in use in conjunction with radio communication, was based upon the numerical code of Frederic Marryat and was indeed a sort of amplification of Marryat's code.

Marryat's code in turn was based upon the numerical codes which had previously been in use in the British navy and the introduction of the numerical code into the British navy is said to have been due to Admiral Sir Charles Henry Knowles, Bart. G. C. B.

There has been some controversy as to whether the credit for introducing the numerical signal code into the British navy should be given to Admiral Kempenfelt, Admiral Howe, who was fondly called *Black Dick* by his sailors, or Admiral Knowles, but from a cursory examination of the rival claims, it seems probable that the credit might well be divided amongst them.

While the perfected code seems to have been the work of Kempenfelt, the earliest actual use of numerical signal flags in

the British navy seems to have been by Admiral Howe in the channel fleet in 1872<sup>1</sup>. Admiral Knowles claims however to have suggested the idea to Howe in 1778.

Indeed Admiral Knowles definitely makes this claim himself in a book entitled "Observations on Naval Tactics" which was published in 1830. Writing in the third person, Admiral Knowles said:

"In the month of November, 1777, Sir Charles Knowles, on his return to America with the Marquis of Hastings, he told Sir Charles Knowles that he had been informed by good judges, that all our signals and manoeuvres were radically bad; that Lord Howe had gone on the old plan, which was to hoist signal flags at particular places, one flag generally at seven different places, and there were nearly forty flags. Lord Howe, by having horizontally striped flags, made one flag, by turning it upside down, answer the purpose of two flags; but these flags were hoisted at particular places, as the old signals were. The Marquis of Hastings desired Sir Charles Knowles to strike out something new, and to lose sight of the old plan, and Lord Howe's plan altogether, as these plans would cramp his ideas. In the month of November following, on board the Chatham flag-ship of Sir Peter Parker (rear-admiral), Sir Charles Knowles discovered the signals, by numbers, which were hoisted where best seen. These he gave to Admiral Lord Howe on his arrival at Newport, Rhode Island; and his Lordship afterwards introduced them into the channel fleet. Sir Charles Knowles did not publish them out of compliment to Lord Howe. On his passage home he discovered the tabular flags (suggested by a chess-board) which were also hoisted where best seen."

The change from the old code, wherein the position of the flag determined its meaning, to Knowles' new code in which each flag merely represented a number and the combination of numbers carried the message, was a great step forward in the development of signals.

Sir Charles definitely states that he "discovered" the code while in American waters in 1777 or 1778 and that he gave

---

<sup>1</sup>Cf. Sir Julian Corbett in *Navy Rec. Soc.* XXIX, p. 235.

this new code to Admiral Lord Howe, upon the latter's arrival at Newport, Rhode Island, in August 1778, so that the formal presentation of this new code occurred at Newport, Rhode Island, in 1778.

Knowles worked this code out in American waters, perhaps while at Narragansett Bay and it seems almost certain that his code was an adoption of the code then in use by the French navy and that he may have "discovered" the principle of the numerical code from the French fleet, for the numerical code was at that time in use in the French fleet and was available in printed form in the signal book printed in 1773.

The system of "tabular flags, suggested by a chess-board" which Knowles also mentioned as having "discovered" and which he stated was published in his own name by Mr. Robson, bookseller, in New Bond Street, London, in June or July, 1778, is also a system at that time in use in the French navy.

It will be seen then that it was at Newport, Rhode Island, that the numerical (or French) signal code system was presented in tangible form to the Admiral who eventually introduced its use into the British navy.

---

A reference to early signal flags will be found in *R. I. H. S. Collections*, vol. XX, p. 4.

H. M. C.

## Was Claggett, the Clock-maker, an Engraver?

William Claggett of Newport, won an enviable reputation and lasting fame as a clock-maker, yet like his friend Benjamin Franklin, he too was versatile and many-sided, and made excursions into other fields.

In an address delivered at Newport in 1838, the Rev. Arthur A. Ross said:

"Mr. Claggett is justly distinguished for his early and successful experiments on electricity. He constructed an electrical machine of such dimensions, as to occupy the principal part of



one of the rooms of his house. At the request of several gentlemen of Boston, he carried his machine to that place, and such was the satisfaction of the people of that town with his experiments, (all of which were made for the benefit of the afflicted) that he received about £1500 in three weeks. He was intimately acquainted with the celebrated Dr. Benjamin Franklin, and it is said that when the Dr. visited Newport some time previous to Mr. Claggett's death, although he had made some electrical experiments by the friction of glass bars, yet this was the first



machine of the kind he had ever seen. The Dr. was exceedingly interested in it, and was probably aided by it in his own future triumphant and successful experiments. Subsequently to the death of Mr. Claggett, and while Dr. Franklin was in Philadelphia, his son, Thomas Claggett, desirous of setting up a machine on the plan improved by Dr. Franklin, and as a cylinder was not to be obtained in this part of the country, sent to the Dr. to procure one for him. His request was readily complied with by Franklin, who, when learning that it was for the son of his old friend, William Claggett, refused to accept the money sent for its purchase."

Claggett was doing business in Boston in 1716 as is shown by the following advertisement which he placed in the Boston News Letter :



"To be Sold a new Fashion'd Monethly Clock & Case lately arrived from London, also a new Fashion'd Camblet Bed lin'd with Satten, to be seen at Mr. William Claggett, jun. Clock-Maker, near the Town-House."

He soon removed to Newport, where he took a leading part in the controversy which rent the Baptist Church. In 1721 he wrote and published an account of this controversy entitled:

"A Looking-Glass for Elder Clarke and Elder Wightman, and the Church under their care. Wherein is fairly represented the very image of their transactions. It being a brief but true relation of the cause and prosecution of the differences between the Baptist Church, under the Pastoral care of the aforesaid Elders, and John Rhodes, Capt. John Rogers, William Claggett and several others that were members of the aforesaid Church. With some remarks thereon . . . ."

In 1738 the General Assembly of Rhode Island authorized the issue of £100,000 of paper money and empowered the Grand Committee in charge to make any changes in the plates that it deemed necessary for the prevention of counterfeiting. The act further specified "that William Claggett be employed by the Grand Committee to impress the publick Bills of Credit, to be emitted by Virture of this Act."

At first glance, it does not appear quite clear why a clock-maker should be employed to print the paper money for the Colony, but on thinking the matter over, it occurred to me that, like Vernon who printed the previous issue of paper money, Claggett also might have carried on engraving as a sort of side line. Although I found no definite contemporary statement that Claggett did engraving, his versified interests increased the possibility. If Claggett actually engraved the plates from which the paper money was to be printed, it would then follow as a quite natural corollary that he would be employed to do the printing.

Discouraged with the failure to find any external evidence or support of this theory, I turned to an examination of the bills themselves and was struck with the remarkable similarity of some of the script lettering on the bills with the script



lettering on the maker's name plate on the Claggett clock in the museum of the Rhode Island Historical Society. The plate on the clock bears the engraved inscription "Will Claggett, Newport."

The letters "C" and "w" in the word "Crown" on the bills are of a rather unusual and distinctive form and are identical with the "C" and "w" in the words Claggett and Newport, respectively, on the plate of the clock. The letters "ill" of the word shilling on the paper money likewise are of remarkable similarity to the "ill" of the word "Will" on the clock.

From such marked similarity it seems very probable, indeed almost certain, that the man who cut the plates for the paper money, also engraved the plate for the clock, and taking into consideration the conditions of the time and place; for Claggett, the clock maker, could not have employed very many men in Newport in 1738, and taking into consideration Claggett's personality and attainments, it seems safe to conclude that in all probability William Claggett himself was the engraver.

If this is true, we must also credit to William Claggett the delicate technique and the artistic taste that the engraver displayed on these really charming specimens of colonial currency. Of course the motives are not new, for the engraver naturally merely followed the English fashions of the day, but the treatment is such that the engraver (and I feel we are justified in believing him to be William Claggett), deserves a definite recognition in any history of the development of arts and designs in America.

H. M. C.

## Part of the Log of Sloop Ranger of Rhode Island, 1744

FROM ORIGINAL IN THE LIBRARY OF PAUL C. NICHOLSON

Munday Aprill the:16:1744

In the fore Part of the Day Weighed anchor and Came to Sail from a Landing Named Largaue God willing Bound for Rhoad Island

Tuesday Aprill the:17

This Last twenty four hours Small winds Last knight a Large quantity of Rain and but Very Small winds this morning Was of against a Landing named-O Rosse

Wedensday Aprill the 18-1744

This Last twenty four hours Pleasent Weather but Very Small winds this morning Soone after Day Break Saw a Sail which Very much Suprised me it was a Ship and for a Considerable Time Took it to be an English man of war but Since Judge her to be a french marchant Ship for She mad the best of her way up the Bay as Sone as the Wind Come Westerly

Thirsday Aprill the:19:1744 S:R

This Last twenty four hours Pleasent Weather Smooth Water and but Small Winds in the afternoon yesterday Saw a Small Sloop as Took her to be a Standing up a Long Shour within Cape Nicholas and as Sone as Saw her I Put about and Stod of and about Sun half an hour High Saw a Large Sloop Baring  $W\frac{1}{2}$  North from me to Day at 12 a Clock the Cape Judge to Bare S S E from me Distance 7 or 8 Leagues by Judgment Since have Got to the Northward of the Cape meete with the wind Very far Noterly but am in hopes toward Evining it will hall to the Eastward more—————

Zenith Distance	}	De 5:10 m
Suns:Declinat	}	14:56 m

Lattd:by obser	m	De 20-6
----------------	---	---------

Friday Aprill the 20 1744

This Last twenty four hours Pleasent Weather Smooth Water  
Some part fine Brease of wind and Some part Small wind  
and Some part quite Calm this morning before Sunrise made  
Hinedgo Baring about E by N from me Distan 4 Leagues or  
thereabouts. . . . .

Zenith Distance 00:00

Suns Declination 15:14m

Lattd: by Judgmtt : De 21:48 m

Saturd: Aprill the: 21:1744 Slop Ran

This Last twenty four hours fine and fair Weather but Ex-  
reme hot water Very Smooth and but Very Little Wind about  
5 in the afternoon yesterday Tacked Clear under Hinedgo  
not above a mile from the Shoar and steard away N W:  
While 4 this morning and Steard N W by N and about 6 this  
morning Satt-Square Sail and Soone after haled up N by W the  
Latter Part of the twenty four hours Scarce had Stearege  
Way but am in hopes Shall have more in a short time.....

Zenith Distance } 6:5

Suns Declinat } 15:32 m

Lattd: by obser De 21:37 m

Sundy: Aprill the 22:1744 Sp Rainger

this Last twenty four hours Pleaseant Weather for the most  
part first part Small Braeses but Latter part fresh at one part  
meridian yesterday made the hogsties Beering N E by E from  
me Distin about 3 Leagues and at 6 the above Sd kees Boar  
S E by E Dist: 4 Leagues Run Last Evining while half: after  
Eleven N by W & N N W and then halled Down all Sail and  
Lay by While Day Break for Acklind kees and then mad  
Sail and before Sunrise made the kees and by 7 in the morn-  
ing Came Round the Leward most of them with a fircce Gail  
of wind and in a few hours made the South Part of Krooked  
Island and a Little 12 a Clock Saw a Sail to the Northward  
of us which Gave us Chase and Come up With us Very fast  
and we put about and Stod the Southwd but all in Vain be-



fore Sun Sett Spoke with us it was the Rose man of war  
Captn: franklin has the Providence Statien he Sent his Barge  
a Boardwith

Tuesday Aprill the :24:1744 Sp Rainger

This Day Last part Very unpleasant Weather and Some part  
a fresh Gail of wind and Some part SAllmost Calm at Least  
Very Light winds and a Very bad Sea that has Beat our poor  
old Sails amost into flitter and Some Rain had which is yet  
worss for our Sails at  $\frac{1}{2}$  after 6 Last Evining Crooked Boar  
from one E N E Dist 8 Leagues this morning at 6 Saw Long  
Island. Bearing about S S W from me Distan about 4 Leagues

Zenith; Distan	}	De 6:55 m
Sun: Declin		16:24 m
Lattd: by obser		De 23:19 m

1746

Nas aw Newprovidence June 30th

Recd of Peleg Peckham Sixtene p. 8/8. of Eight in full for  
Pilotage of the Sloop Endeavour to the Salt pond and Back  
again. I Say Recd p Jeremiah nect

Wednesd: Aprill the 25th 1744 Sp Rainger

this Day Last Past unPleasant Weather and an Large quant-  
ity of Rain Some hard thunder and Very Sharpe Lightning  
this morning had Very neigh Lost our Sloop upon Watlings  
Island about 3 of the Clock but had the Good fortune to Gitt  
Clear Which was more than I Expected Wonce at 4 past  
meridian Yesterday Saw Run kee Baring from me W N W  
Distan about 4 Leagues

Lattd: of Watlings Island	De 24:3 m
td	
and Long of the Same	De 75-5 m

Thirsday Aprill 26-1744 Sp Rainger

Course from Watlings Island While to Day at 12 Judge to  
be N N W—

Distan Sailed	}	48 m
Diff : of Lattd		44 m
Departure		18 m
d		
Diff : of Long	}	20 m

Long : by Judgmtd		De 75:25 m
Zenith:Distance	}	De 7:50 m
Sun : Declination		16:57 m
Lattd: by obser		De 24:47 m

Thirsday Aprill the 26:1744: Sp R. F. R.

This Day Last past pleasent weather but Very Small winds  
and a Very Bad Sea Ran all in heaps as if had a Great Cur-  
rant and has Beat and Banged our Poore old Sail Very Badly  
and they Very Illy able to Bare Such uesage about 4 past  
meridian Yesterday Saw a Large Ship and Sloop in Company  
with her Stand Right towards us they Boar then about W N W  
from me and I Put about and Stod to the Eastward about one  
hour and half the Ship and Sloop Boar away and Stod to  
the Southward I take in to be a man of war with her Prize  
Last Evening at half after 6 Watlings Island Boar S S E  
from me Distan 3 Leagues from which I Take my Departure  
by Gods Permission Bound to Rhoad Island—————

From Watlings Island in Lattd

De-m                      td      De-m  
From Watlings Island in Lattd 24-3 and Long : 75-5 to

De m                      d                      m  
Rhd-Island in Lattd : 42:22 and Long : De 69.00 about Eleven  
to Day Came up a Small Brease of wind at about S W and  
Sot main Sail & Square Sail and am in hopes it will increase  
in a short time

Frydy Aprill the 27:1744: Sp Ran. F Rhoad

This Day Past Pleasent weather and Smoth water and But Very

Small winds and all Round the Campas at about 7 Last Evining went about and Lay N N W the other way and about 10 at night fell Calm haled Down all Sails and in one hours time Small Brease Came up and S S W made Sail again and the wind Since halled Round to almost North at 4 this morning Jybd and at about 6 Sat Square Sail and about ten hand him the winds Semes to act Very odly for the time of year but am in Great hopes Shall have the Winds more favorable in a Short time or our Will be Very Long I Doubt but the Best thing it Can be Come at in These Casses in Patience

Course	N E
Distance Sailed in the afternoon	38 m
Diff: of Lattd yesterday: Caught	27 m
Departure 3 fine Dolphin	27 m
Diff:of Long	30 m
Longtd: by Judgmtt	De 74:58 m
Zenith Distance }	De 8-0
Suns Declination }	17-14 m
Lattd by obser	De 25:14 m

Saturd: Aprill the 28:1744: Sp R:F:Rhoad Is

This Day Last Past Pleasant Weather Smooth Water and but Very Little Wind and the Greatist part of the twenty four hours Calm and have Very Little or no Expectations of any other Sort of Wind and Weather While the Chang of the moon and that is some Days yet and if Should Not the Winds more favorable than Sould be Very much Discouraged but am in Great hopes of Fair and fresh Breases then: if not before

Course	N N E
Distance Sailed }	29 m
Diff: of Lattd }	27 m
Departure }	11 m
Diff: of Longtd }	12 m
Longtd: the Ships in	De 74:43 m
Zenith Distance }	De 00:00
Suns Declination }	17:30 m
Lattd: by Judgmtt	D 25:41 m



Sunday Aprill: the 29:1744: Sp R:F; Rhoad

This Last twenty four hours fair weather and Smooth water and Very Small winds Very Little of the Time had Stearage Way and Great part of the time quite Calm and at Preasent Very Little Sines of wind but am in hopes Shall have a Good Brease in a Short time Course North

Distance Sailed	20 m
Diff: of Latt	20 m
Departure	00 m
Diff: of Long	00 m
	De m
Longtd: by Judgmtt	74:43
Zenith Distan	} 00-00
Suns: Declina	
	17:45 m
	De
Lattd: by Judgmtt	<u>26-1</u> m

Munday: Aprill the 30th: 1744 Sp R:F Rhoad I

This Last twenty four hours fair Weather and Smooth Water and Very Little Wind—

Lattd: and Long: as Yesterday

De:-m	De:m
26: 1	74:43
Suns Declination	De: m
	18:1

Tuesdy May the 1:1744 Sp R:F:Rainger

This Last twenty four hours fair & Pleasant Weather and Smooth Water and a fine Brease of wind for the most of the time

Course .....	N by E.....
Distan Sailed	97 m
Diff: of Lattd	95 m
Departure	19 m
Diff of Long	22 m
Long by Judgmtt	De 74:21 m

Zenith Distance	}	De 9-20
Suns Declinat		18:26 m
Lattd: by obser		27:36 m

New moon at 4 in the morninge

Wedens: May 2:1744 Sp R:F:Rainger Island

This Last twenty four hours fair & Pleasent Weather and Smooth Water and a fine Gail of Wind Large Have Not Got So far to the Northward as Expected but believe the Reason to be the People have Lett her Goe more to the Eastward then were Ordered and Shall allow her course accordingly.

Course N by E  $\frac{3}{4}$  E

Distan Sailed	106 m
Diff: of Lattd	100 m
Departure	36 m
Diff: of Longd	41 m
Longtd by Judgmtt	De 73:40 m
Zenith Distance	} De 10:45
Suns Declination	
Lattd: by obser:	29:16

Thirsd: May 3:1744 Sp R:F: Rhode Island

This Last twenty four hours fair & Pleasent Weather and Smooth Water and a fine Gail of wind for the most of the twenty four hours Round to Day a fine Seapig for Dinner & c

Course	N by E
Distan Sailed	116 m
Diff: of Lattd	114 m
Departure	23 m
Diff of Longd	27 m
Longtd by Judgmtt	De-73:13 m
Zent:Distance	} De-12:25
Suns Delinati	
	De m
Lattd: by obser:	31:10

Fryd: May 4-1744 Sp Rainger F Rhoad Island

This Last twenty four hours Pleasent Weather Smooth Water and a fine Gail of wind but Very Close for the most part to Day about ten a Clock in flying Jibb then had a Smart Gale and Some Rainy Drissily Weather but was Soone over and Come Pleasent and after 12 a Clock Sot flying Jibb again

Course	N by E
Distance Sailed	101 m
Diff of Lattd	99 m
Departure	20 m
Diff: of Longd	24 m
Longd by Judgmtt:	De 72:49 m
Zenith : Distance }	De 13:40
Suns Declinati }	18:59 m
Lattd-by :a:Qd:ob	D m
	32:39

Saturd: May 5:1744: Sp Rainger F: Rhoad Island

This Last twenty four hours Pleasent Weather and Smooth water and but Small Brease of Wind Great Part Very Little indeed the Wind has from E N E to E S E & c

Course	N by E $\frac{1}{2}$ E
Distanc Sailed	88 m
Diff: of Lattd	84 m
Departure	26 m
Diff of Longd	31 m
Longd: by Judgmtt	De 72:18 m
Zenth: Distance	14:50
Suns Declination	18:13 m
	De m
Lattd: by obser:	34:3

## Notes

The following persons have been admitted to membership in the Society:

Mr. Wallis E. Howe	Mr. Robert F. Chambers
Mr. J. Willard Baker	Mr. John W. Haley
Mr. A. E. Watson	Mrs. John T. Gardner
Mr. William L. Manchester	

Recent publications of local interest are:

*Check-List of Legislative Documents in the Rhode Island State Archives*, by Grace E. Macdonald, Providence, 1928, 24 pages.

*Roger Williams and the King's Colors*, by Howard M. Chapin is a monograph of 26 pages issued by the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Rhode Island.

An illustrated article on the work of John Townsend of Newport, Cabinet-maker, is contained in volume 1, part 1, of the October, 1928, issue of *Metropolitan Museum Studies*.

*Angell's Apple Orchard, 1774-1929*, by Professor Arthur E. Watson, Providence, (1928). A pamphlet of 22 pages on the history of the First Baptist Church.

*Rhode Island Tales* depicting social life during the Colonial, Revolutionary and Post-Revolutionary eras. Edited with foreword by Henrietta R. Palmer. New York, 1928, 181 pages.

*Trees and Shrubs of Roger Williams Park*, by Maribelle Cormack. Providence, 1928, 49 pages, illustrated.

The New England Historical and Genealogical Register for January, 1929, contains genealogies by G. Andrews Moriarty, Jr. of two Rhode Island families, the Paine family of Block Island, and the Card family of Block Island.

*The Letter Book of James Browne* of Providence, Merchant, 1735-1738, has been printed from the original manuscript in the Society's library, with an introduction on eighteenth century New England pronunciation by George Philip Krapp, Ph.D., and a biographical sketch by John Carter Brown Woods.

Mrs. Charles A. Calder has presented to the Society as a memorial to her husband, his noteworthy collection of pewter, which contains many unique specimens in addition to being the most important collection of Rhode Island pewter ever gathered.



RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
TREASURER'S REPORT

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEAR 1928

---

RECEIPTS

Annual Dues .....	\$2,240.00
Dividends and Interest .....	5,190.06
Rental of Rooms .....	255.00
State Appropriation .....	1,500.00
	<hr/>
	\$9,185.06
Expenditures exceed income .....	94.89
	<hr/>
	\$9,279.45

EXPENDITURES

Binding .....	\$ 212.50
Books .....	544.93
Electric Light and Gas .....	42.23
Exhibitions .....	163.84
Expenses .....	122.77
Grounds and Building .....	652.84
Heating .....	700.00
Newspaper Account .....	80.75
Publication .....	1,103.76
Salaries .....	5,297.81
Supplies .....	282.27
Telephone .....	67.75
Water .....	8.00
	<hr/>
	\$9,279.45

## STATEMENT OF CONDITION, DECEMBER 31, 1928

## ASSETS

Grounds and Building.....	\$ 25,000.00
---------------------------	--------------

## Investments :

## BONDS

\$5,000	New York Edison Co., 6½s, 1941.....	\$5,447.85
4,000	Cedars Rapids Mfg. & Power Co., 5s, 1953	3,228.88
3,000	Central Mfg. District.....	3,000.00
3,000	Cleveland Elec. Illuminating Co., 5s, 1939..	2,565.42
1,000	Commonwealth Edison Co., 5s, 1943.....	965.25
4,000	Government of Dominion of Canada, 5s, 1952	4,003.91
1,000	Western Electric Co., 5s, 1944.....	998.17
300	United Electric Rys. Co., Prior Lien, 4s 1946	231.27
4,000	61 Broadway Bldg., 1st Mtge., 5½s, 1950	4,000.00
4,000	Minnesota Power & Light Co., 1st 5s, 1955	3,930.00
4,000	Monongahela Valley Traction Co., 1st 5s, 1942 .....	3,685.00
2,000	Ohio Power Co., 1st & Ref. 5s, 1952.....	1,974.00
2,000	Narragansett Co., 5s, 1947.....	1,980.00
2,000	Shell Union Oil Corporation, 5s, 1947.....	1,979.00
2,000	Koppers Gas & Coke Co., 5s, 1947.....	1,962.50

## STOCKS

50 shs. New York Central Railroad Co.....	\$3,355.22	
111 shs. Pennsylvania Railroad Co.....	6,986.03	
30 shs. Lehigh Valley Railroad Co. ....	2,112.50	
6 shs. Lehigh Valley Coal Sales Co.....	241.85	
40 shs. Milwaukee Elec. Ry. & Light Co., Pfd..	3,900.00	
64 shs. American Tel. & Tel. Co.....	7,289.43	
60 shs. Providence Gas Co.....	5,005.68	
15 shs. Providence National Bank		} ..... 1,800.00
30 shs. Merchants' National Bank Bldg.		
45 shs. Blackstone Canal National Bank.....	1,050.00	
52 shs. Atchison, Topeka and Sante Fe Ry. Co.,		
Com. ....	6,368.75	
		78,060.71
Cash on hand .....		4,962.20
		<u>\$108,022.91</u>

## LIABILITIES

Equipment Fund .....	\$ 25,000.00
Permanent Endowment Fund:	
Samual M. Noyes.....	\$ 12,000.00
Henry J. Steere.....	10,000.00
James H. Bugbee.....	6,000.00
Charles H. Smith.....	5,000.00
Charles W. Parsons.....	4,000.00
William H. Potter.....	3,000.00
Esek A. Jillson.....	2,000.00
John Wilson Smith.....	1,000.00
William G. Weld.....	1,000.00
Charles C. Hoskins.....	1,000.00
Charles H. Atwood.....	1,000.00
	<hr/> 46,000.00
Publication Fund:	
Robert P. Brown.....	\$ 2,000.00
Ira B. Peck.....	1,000.00
William Gammell.....	1,000.00
Albert J. Jones.....	1,000.00
William Ely.....	1,000.00
Julia Bullock.....	500.00
Charles H. Smith.....	100.00
	<hr/> 6,600.00
George L. Shepley Fund.....	5,000.00
Life Membership .....	5,300.00
Franklin Lyceum Memorial Fund.....	734.52
Book Fund .....	3,012.41
Reserve Fund. ....	965.52
Revolving Publication Fund.....	901.62
Surplus .....	12,470.71
Surplus Income Account.....	2,038.13
	<hr/> \$108,022.91

## PRINCIPAL ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1928

---

 RECEIPTS

New York Central R. R. Co., 50 rights.....	\$ 289.90
Pennsylvania R. R. Co., 111 rights .....	202.42
American Tel. & Tel. Co., 64 rights.....	734.18
Life Membership .....	150.00
Reserve Fund .....	130.21
Revolving Publication Fund .....	204.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,710.71
Balance, January 1, 1928 .....	1,799.94
	<hr/>
	\$3,510.65

## PAYMENTS

2 shs. Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe R. R. Co. (subscription)...	\$ 200.00
Reserve Fund .....	4.20
Revolving Publication Fund .....	382.38
Balance December 31, 1928 .....	2,924.07
	<hr/>
	\$3,510.65

Respectfully submitted,

G. A. HARRINGTON, *Treasurer.*



## Colonial Heraldry

(Continued from vol. XXII, page 32)

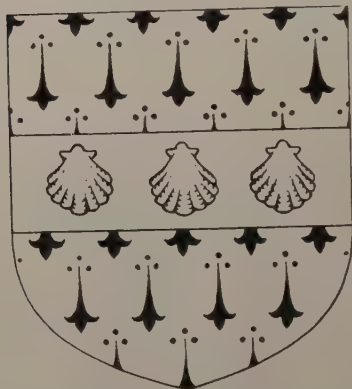
### REYNOLDS



The gravestone of Joseph Reynolds of Bristol, who died January 16, 1759, bears the arms "three foxes passant in pale" with the crest "a fox passant." The lines below the foxes are apparently intended for mounts, rather than for partition lines of the shield. The only arms, charged with three foxes, recorded by Papworth, is ascribed to the family of Tregos and its variant spellings, but d'Eschavannes ascribes a French coat, "Azure three foxes, 2, 1, or," to La Renardiere of Anjou.

These arms seem to be canting arms based on the similarity of the word reynard and the name Reynolds. The Reynolds Family Association in the United States adopted these Joseph Reynolds arms in the twentieth century for the Reynolds family in America as "Azure three foxes passant in pale or" with the crest "A fox passant or," (Reynolds Fam. Asso. Rep. 1916, p. 19). The colors though assumed arbitrarily (ibid) are those of La Renardiere.

## INGRAM



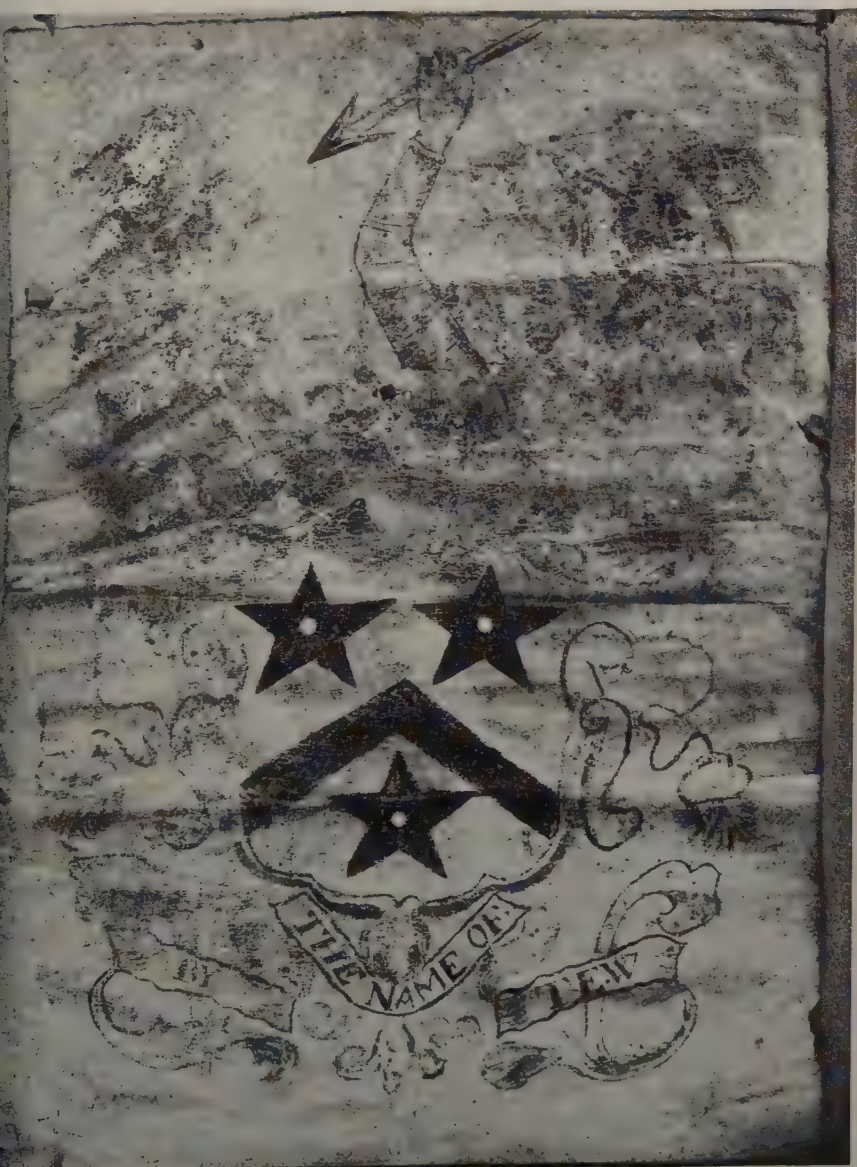
The armorial seal used in 1713 by William Brooke of Newport, which was described previously,<sup>1</sup> may have been an Ingram armorial seal. One of the witnesses to one of the two documents (*R. I. H. M.* XI:33.) was Wm. Ingram, and it is of course possible that seal belonged to him. The arms on the seal bear a closer resemblance to the Ingram arms than to any Brooke arms of record.

The earliest use of the Ingram or Ingraham arms in New England, as hitherto recorded, is on the bookplate of Captain Solomon Ingraham of Norwich, who was born in 1765 and died in 1805.<sup>2</sup> His arms are shown opposite the frontispiece in G. R. Gladding's *The Great Ingraham Estate* Providence, 1859. As he was only eleven years old, when the Declaration of Independence was signed, and as Richard Brunton, the engraver of the bookplate,<sup>3</sup> did not go to Norwich until 1781 or later, this use of these arms can scarcely be considered colonial. The arms of the Ingrams who were Viscounts Irvine, were "Ermine on a fesse gules, three escallops or," The arms on this seal, are "Ermine on a fesse, . . . three escallops. . . ." The arms on the bookplate of Solomon Ingraham are those of the Viscount Irving, including his crest, motto and supporters. Solomon doubtless assumed them in connection with his attempt to obtain the so-called "Great Ingraham Estate." If the arms on the seal of 1713 are Ingram arms, their use on this seal is the only recorded instance of their use in colonial New England.

<sup>1</sup>*R. I. H. S. Coll.* XXI, p. 136.

<sup>2</sup>*Norwich Vital Rec.*

<sup>3</sup>Bates, A. C., *An Early Connecticut Engraver.*



COAT OF ARMS PAINTED ON PARCHMENT.  
(See article on Tew arms.)

*From original in the possession  
of Mr. Sylvester M. Snow.*

## WEST

Elizabeth, widow of Nathan Mathewson of Providence, used an armorial seal on a deed dated March 21, 1776, (R. I. H. S. Deeds I:19). The device is "A demi griffin" as a crest, that is on a torse, within a lozenge. Apparently the designer of this seal had heard that the arms of a woman should in certain uses be placed upon a lozenge-shaped shield, and so placed the crest within a lozenge in an attempt to follow his interpretation of this heraldic rule.

No record of the griffin as a Mathewson crest has been found, but this crest may well have been that of Elizabeth Mathewson's father's family. We do not know her maiden name, but as only one witness, Joseph West, signed the deed, it has been suggested that he may have been her brother.

Burke gives the crest, "A demi-griffin vert, sans tail, collared or, holding in the dexter paw a sword of the first" for the Wests of Darley Abbey, Derby, and Fairbairn gives "A demi-dragon proper without tail, collared or, in dexter a sword proper" as a West crest. Fairbairn gives six West crests in which a griffin's head is the chief motive. Lysons' *History of Derbyshire* (1817) gives the West crest as "A demi-griffin vert or, holding a sword upright argent, hilted of the second." Nothing is said about the absence of a tail. Dr. Bowditch considers the absence or presence of the tail to be a detail of no importance, which would normally be left to the discretion of the artist. He suggests that the sword may well have been a later addition to the crest, perhaps for differencing the Wests of Darley Abbey.

## GARDNER

Although a coat of arms appears on the gravestone of John Gardner of Newport, who died in 1764, it can not be taken as evidence of colonial usage, for on this stone John Gardner is described as "Lieutenant Governor," a title that did not come into use until 1799, and so strong evidence that the stone was not cut in colonial days.



## BOURSE

In 1783 John Bours of Newport used an armorial seal (R. I. H. M. V:71), but no evidence of the use of this seal in colonial times has yet been found.

## BRENTON

In the account book of John Stevens, stone cutter of Newport, under the date of September 1727, Mr. Jalel Brenton is charged £40 for "one double toimestone for the Governor" charged £5 "to cutting the Cwoate of Armes." At first glance this would seem to be for an armorial tombstone for Governor William Brenton, who died 1674, the grandfather of Jahleel (Jalel) Brenton, but upon further investigation it appears that this Jahleel Brenton was son-in-law of Governor Samuel Cranston, who died in April 1727, and also executor of the estate of Samuel Cranston. As Cranston had been Governor of the colony for over 29 years, he might well have been referred to as "The Governor," and as Brenton was executor of his estate, the bill for the stone would naturally have been charged against him. The fact that Governor Cranston's gravestone was a "double tombstone" with a coat of arms on it, seems to be remarkably strong evidence in corroboration of the theory that the stone cut by Stevens in 1727 was the Cranston stone. The Cranston stone is the only double tombstone with a coat of arms now in the Newport cemeteries.

Vermont (*Amer. Herald.* 120) attempts to credit the arms granted to Sir Jahleel Brenton, Bart. to his ancestor, William Brenton, of course, omitting the canton of baronetcy, but erroneously copies from Burke the arms of the Brentons of Hertfordshire, instead of the arms of Sir Jahleel Brenton, Bart. Crozier as usual follows Vermont.

There is no evidence that the Brentons of Rhode Island used armorial bearings in the colonial period. However, William Brenton sealed a letter, dated at Hammersmith, Newport, R. I., March 15, 1668, with an oval seal bearing a rampant lion contourné, with a single or unforked fail. It may have been

a motive taken from his family arms, although the Brinton arms, on which Sir Jahleel's arms are apparently based, bear a lion rampant with a forked tail, (*forchée* or *double queued*).

On the other hand William Brenton sealed a deed in 1660 with a seal having as its device a double-headed eagle charged with an escutcheon, (Mss. in R. I. H. S.).

### BROWN

An armorial memorial was erected in 1795 in Trinity Church, Newport, to Rev. Marmaduke Brown, but this is no evidence that he used the arms in colonial days.

### LAWTON

It is stated (R. I. H. M. V, 140) that George Lawton of Portsmouth (died 1693) had an armorial seal, but neither the seal matrix, nor an impression from it, has been seen by the writer.

### ELAM

No evidence has been produced showing the use of the Elam armorial book plate in the colonial period.

Armoial gravestones bearing the arms of BOWEN, CARPENTER, and JONES are found in the graveyard near Rumford in East Providence, R. I., but at the time that these stones were erected, what is now the town of East Providence was a part of Massachusetts, and the persons in whose memory these stones were erected were not Rhode Islanders. For the same reason we have omitted the arms of such persons as John Saffin and Nathaniel Byfield, who were not Rhode Islanders, although they resided in a district which later was annexed to Rhode Island.



JUST ISSUED

by the Society

THE LETTER BOOK

of JAMES BROWNE

of Providence, Merchant, 1735-1738

---

Price \$3.00